



James R. Hoffa
| REMEMBERED |

Thomas Connors









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CELEBRATING THE
100TH
BIRTHDAY OF
**JAMES R.
HOFFA**

Cover Shot: General Executive Board portrait of International Vice President James R. Hoffa. 1956

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Dedicated to the memory of my father,
| JAMES R. HOFFA |

*T*here have been many great union leaders over the last century, but none have earned more respect, inspired and uplifted more members or created a more lasting legacy than my father, James R. Hoffa.

February 14, 2013, is the 100th anniversary of my father's birth. I often think back about the great rapport he had with rank-and-file Teamsters and how he frequently traveled across the country to visit locals and walk strike lines. He was dedicated to bettering the lives of American workers and worked tirelessly on their behalf.

My father grew up in tough times, losing his father who worked in the coal mines in Indiana when he was only 7 years old. He understood the lives and the fears of his members. As General President from 1957 to 1971, he never stopped moving the union forward and fighting for working families.

This photo record of his life takes a closer look at the man who brought more Americans into the middle class than anyone in our nation's history. It shows him exactly as he was - a strong leader, always there for his members as well as for his family, an avid sportsman, master negotiator and civil rights activist.

Please enjoy these photos of James R. Hoffa, my father, some of which have never before been published. This is a way to convey the man and the memories that are so important to me. Let us continue to hold him up as an example of what labor can accomplish when we are determined, undaunted and unified.



| *Introduction* |

*J*ames R. Hoffa was one of the greatest leaders and organizers of the American labor movement in the 20th century. This year, 2013, will mark the 100th anniversary of his birth. A working man's champion who started out on a warehouse loading dock, Hoffa rose to become a leader of national prominence. Hoffa accomplished more in a few years than most do in a lifetime. His tireless efforts created a strong union that not only served its members, but was also able to help protect and bring justice to all workers.

A leader who envisioned a better life for American workers, Hoffa became a catalyst for change through groundbreaking events like the signing of the National Master Freight Agreement. The National Master Freight Agreement brought more families into the middle class than any other single event in labor history and was recognized as an unprecedented accomplishment.

Hoffa's leadership and support from America's working men and women was not always popular with the powers that be, however. There was some fear that his skills and charisma might be growing too strong. "He's not just the most powerful man in labor," Robert Kennedy said. "He's the most powerful man in the country, next to the president."

But the criticism of Hoffa did not bother the many thousands of Teamsters and their families who cheered him on and waited in long lines just to shake his hand. They saw him as one of their own, the right man at the right time doing the right thing for the country.

In celebration of his life and achievements, The Teamsters History Project has compiled a book of photos to commemorate this extraordinary leader. These photographs include formal union meetings, personal moments with family and casual encounters with members that catch a side of Hoffa that is not often seen by the public. They capture the spirit of the man who was known to introduce himself by saying, "I'm Jimmy Hoffa and I stand up for the American workers."





*Viola Hoffa and her children shortly after the death of her husband, John. She relocated her family to Detroit hoping to find better work and be near relatives.
L to R: Billy, Nancy, Jennetta, Viola and Jimmy. 1920*



Six-year-old Jimmy Hoffa and friends pose for the camera in Brazil, Indiana. 1919



*Inset: A young 19-year-old Jimmy Hoffa goes to work for the union after successfully organizing a strike at the Kroger Warehouse where he worked in Detroit. 1934
Hoffa rises quickly to become a business agent and an organizer for Local 299 in Detroit. 1940*



Newly elected as President of Local 299, 28-year-old Jimmy Hoffa joins striking members on a picket line against a Detroit lumber company. 1941





Kroger drivers receive safety information at the warehouse where Hoffa worked. 1934

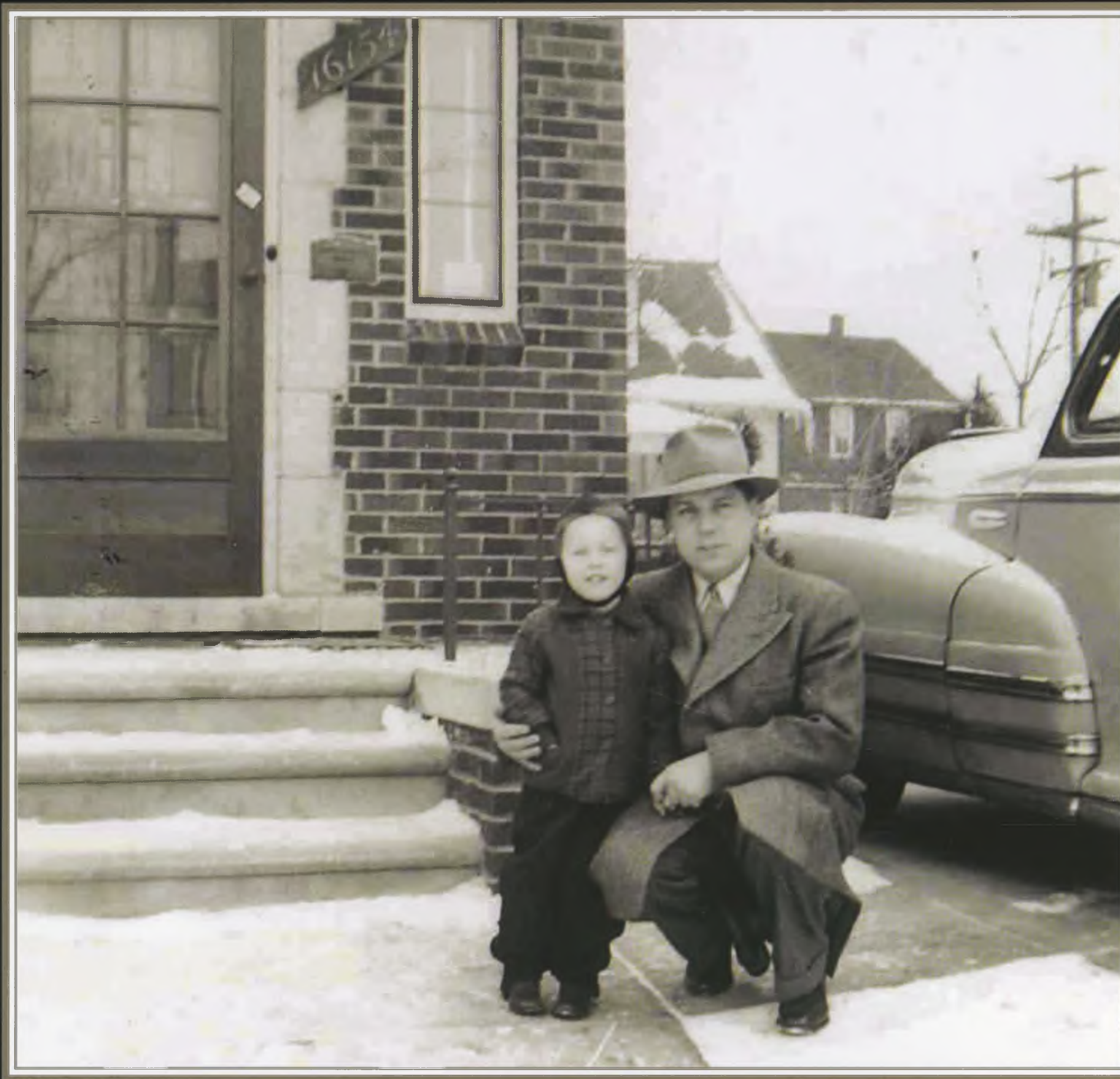


Hoffa chats with friend and fellow Detroit labor leader Owen "Bert" Brennan. 1944

Members of the press interview Hoffa about the accomplishments of the Central States Drivers' Council. Hoffa had become Chairman of the Council the previous year. 1944



The Michigan Labor Council met regularly to discuss wartime issues and other labor concerns. Hoffa is seated second from the left. 1945



Hoffa poses with his 3-year-old son, James P. Hoffa, outside their home in Detroit. 1944



James R. Hoffa pictured shortly after being elected as a Trustee on the Teamsters General Executive Board. 1948

Hoffa, elected to the General Executive Board as an International Vice President in 1952, listens to a discussion at a board meeting. 1954

Hoffa was known to frequently work long hours and handle multiple issues at once. 1956

General Presidential candidate James R. Hoffa. 1957



Hoffa presents a check for \$30,300 to Clifford Tanner, Wayne County, Michigan Chairman for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. The proceeds were from the Detroit Teamster-sponsored FDR Memorial Ball on behalf of the March of Dimes. 1949



Teamster members and other workers gather at a Labor Day parade and picnic in Detroit, 1948





Hoffa enjoyed getting away from the city to relax at his lake cabin with his son, Jim. He often invited other labor leaders and their sons to join them. 1950





Hoffa and his son pose with their catch on a fishing trip in Florida. 1951



A Teamster-sponsored hockey team receives an award from a jovial Hoffa. 1954



Hoffa, appointed as chair of the new Central States Conference in 1953, travels to locals in the region to get to know leaders and build unity. He is joined by Harold Gibbons from Local 688 in St. Louis. 1954

Floyd "Spider" Webb and his members from Local 823 in Joplin, Missouri receive a visit from the Central States Chairman. 1954



Barbara and Jim Hoffa walk with their father outside their house in Detroit. 1956



The office building for Local 299 in Detroit. 1958



Hoffa and Teamsters General President Dave Beck chat with the press prior to the James R. Hoffa testimonial dinner which was held at the Michigan State Fairgrounds. More than 3,000 labor leaders, business leaders and politicians attended the event. 1956



Hoffa and his daughter Barbara traveled to Israel to dedicate and lay the cornerstone for the Teamster-sponsored Children's Home outside of Jerusalem. 1956



The Hoffa family at a testimonial dinner in his honor to raise money for the Children's Home in Israel and other community service projects. 1956



Professor Sumner H. Slichter, a faculty member at Harvard University's Graduate School of Public Administration, talks with Hoffa outside a campus building. Hoffa was invited to lead a seminar on collective bargaining for graduate students at the university. 1956



International Vice President Hoffa and his wife tour Pearl Harbor with guide Frank Gilpin. Gilpin was proud to tell the Hoffas he was a member of the Bakery and Confectioners Union in Seattle. 1956



The Hoffas enjoy some time in the sunshine while in Hawaii. 1956



A Hoffa supporter demonstrates his zeal for his candidate at the 17th Annual Teamsters Convention. 1957



Jo Hoffa and a friend advertise their choice for General President. 1957



Ray Schoessling, President of Joint Council 25 in Chicago, updates Hoffa on the latest Convention news. 1957



Hoffa talks with reporter Dick Pitschke during an interview for WTVJ-TV in Miami. 1957

Hoffa and Gene San Soucie, President of Local 135 in Indianapolis, report on the Central States Conference activities to Convention delegates. 1957



Hoffa and Secretary-Treasurer John F. English discuss the election at the Convention. 1957

The three candidates for General President pose together at the convention before the voting process begins. They are Thomas Haggerty Jr., Secretary-Treasurer of Local 753 in Chicago; James R. Hoffa, President of Local 299 in Detroit; and William Lee, President of Local 734 in Chicago. 1957



The stress of campaigning can get to the best of leaders. Hoffa shows his relief when the election process is finally complete—and he has come out ahead. 1957



Hoffa slices the cake given to him by staff members to celebrate his 45th birthday. 1958



Members eagerly await a chance to shake Hoffa's hand at a union meeting. 1958

Hoffa answers questions after making a speech to a delegation of Michigan Teamsters in Detroit. 1957



Hoffa takes an outdoor lunchtime break across from Teamster headquarters in Washington, D.C. 1957





Hoffa and his 17-year-old son Jim. 1958



Hoffa and Harry Bridges, head of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union, converse at the Longshoremen's Convention. 1958



Hoffa speaks to delegates at a Central States Conference meeting. 1958



Members share concerns with Hoffa at a union meeting, 1958



Testing a new Be-Mac truck was a highlight of the day for Hoffa on a visit to St. Louis, 1959



Hoffa thanks the wives of delegates for their contributions to the union at a Western Conference of Teamsters meeting. 1958



The dining room table served as a desk for Hoffa when he was at home in Detroit. 1959

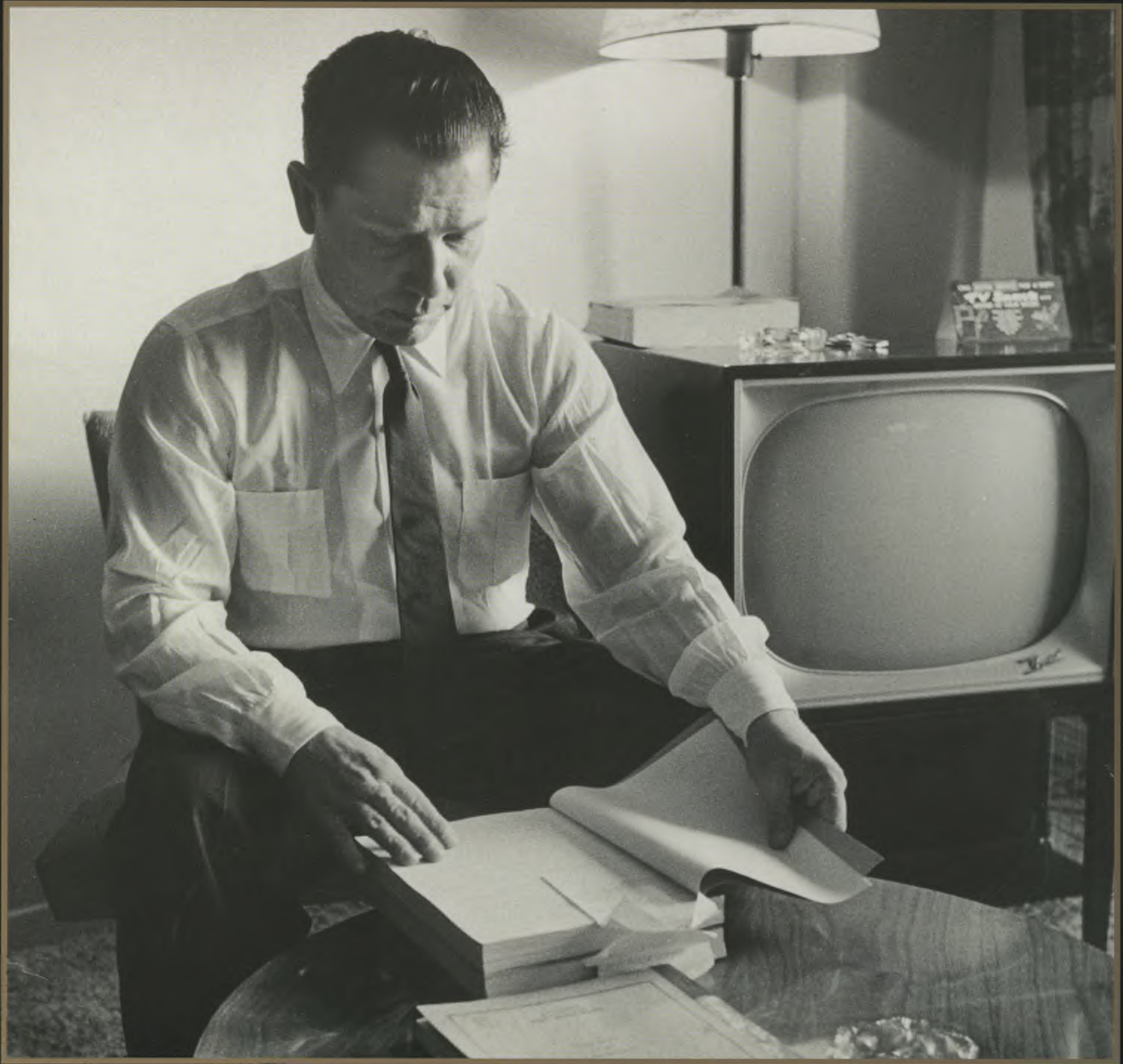


Hoffa was never far from the telephone—or his responsibilities as General President. 1959



The modern filing system at the Teamsters Union made storing and finding member information more efficient and easier for everyone to use. 1959

Early-morning meetings at Hoffa's Washington, D.C. apartment often featured a home-cooked breakfast by the General President. 1959



Contract meetings required a lot of time, preparation and concentration. 1959



New members of Local 299 are sworn in by General President Hoffa. 1959



Hoffa listens to a driver's grievance. He always maintained an open-door policy with members. 1959



Hoffa finishes last-minute tasks before going to sleep on an overnight flight to visit West Coast locals. 1959



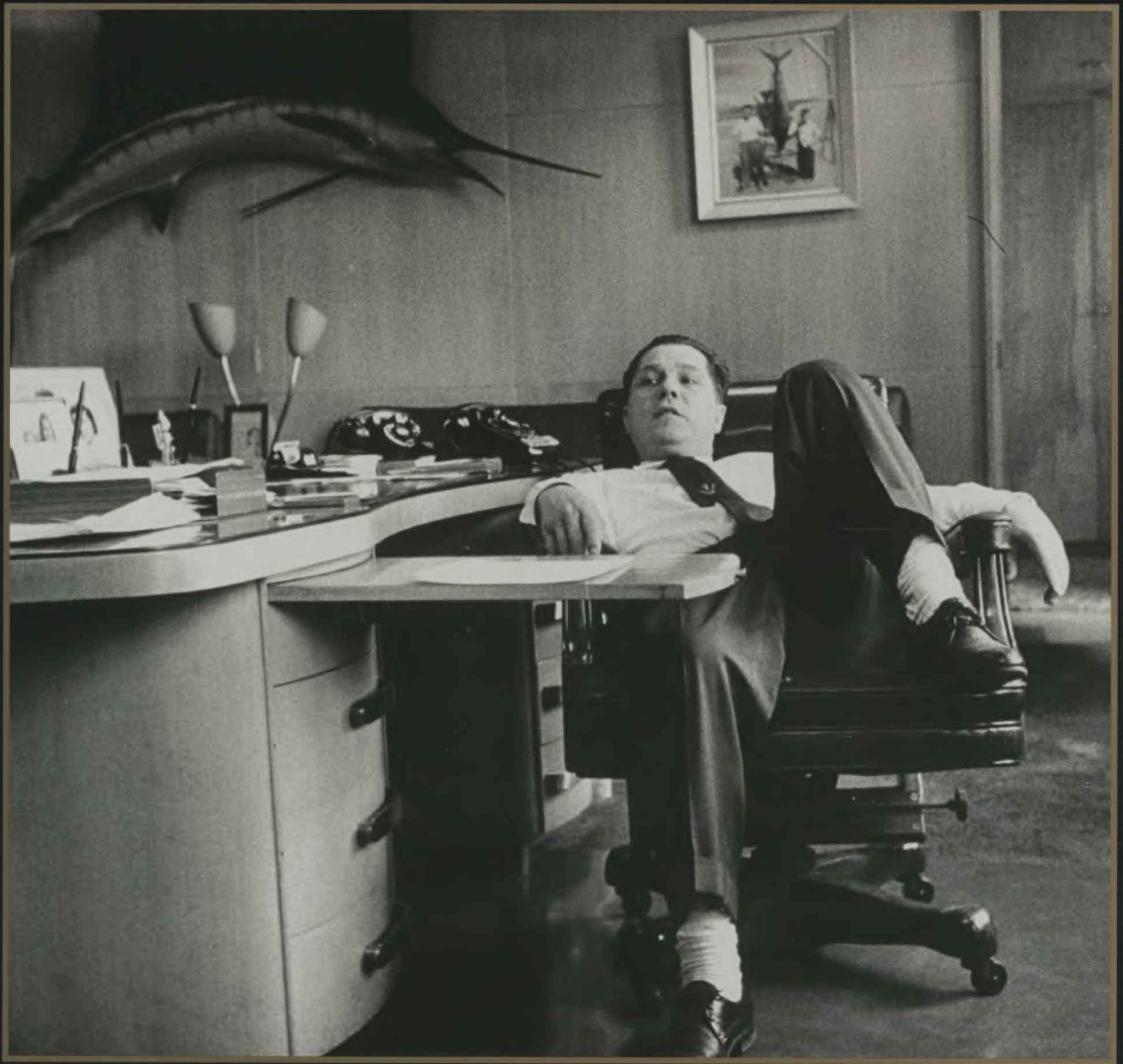
Hoffa and First Vice President Harold Gibbons confer in Hoffa's office at Teamster headquarters. Gibbons was also Hoffa's executive assistant and right-hand man. 1959



Harold Gibbons searches for change as Hoffa makes one of his many phone calls to Teamster headquarters from the road. 1959



Hoffa and Harold Gibbons traveled across the country to visit local unions and to hear the members' concerns. 1959



Hoffa slumps in his chair after a long day in his Detroit office. The fish on the wall was caught on the 1951 fishing trip with his son. 1959



Longtime Teamster John McDonald receives congratulations from Hoffa during a visit to Local 622 in Baltimore. The 17-year steward was taking his well-earned retirement. 1959



Teamster members working for ABF meet Hoffa when he visits the company's St. Louis terminal. 1959



Hoffa discusses strategic planning with the policy committee of Local 162 in Portland, Oregon. 1960



Business agents from the San Francisco area present Hoffa with a "caricature" portrait done by artist Ted Kaufman. 1959



Artist Ted Kaufman's portrait of Hoffa. 1959.



General Secretary-Treasurer John English and Vice President Harold Gibbons discuss pressing issues with Hoffa. 1959



Hoffa, always very health conscious, gets his regular cottage cheese lunch from the union's cafeteria. 1959

The American Legion Commander for the Detroit area presents an award to Hoffa for his service in the community. 1960



Hoffa grills spareribs for members at Local 688's new outdoor recreation and health rehabilitation camp in St. Louis. 1959



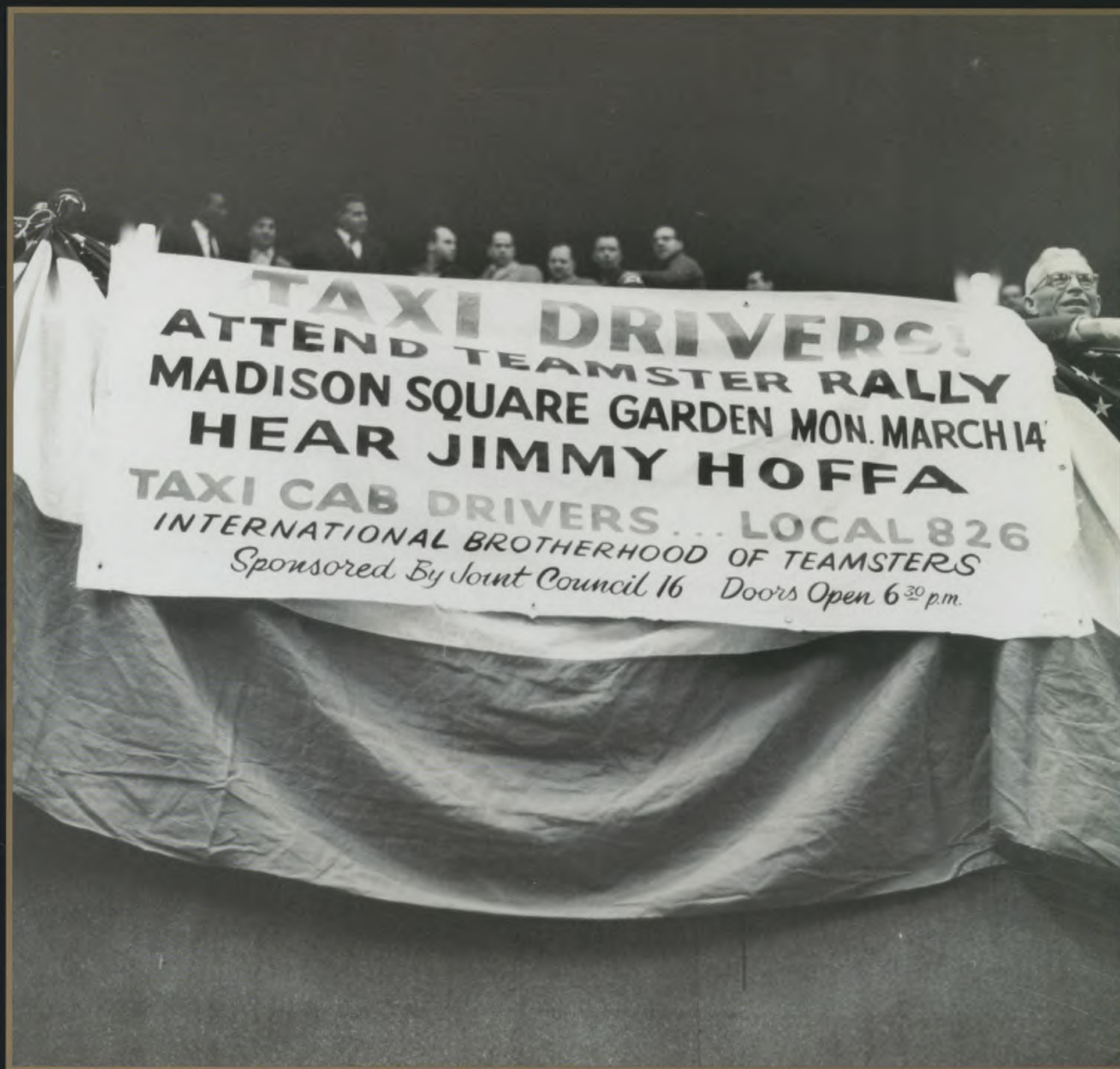
Remembering his more than passing acquaintance with the tool, Hoffa laughs as he pushes a hand truck on a freight loading dock. Hoffa worked long hours loading trucks in a produce warehouse as a young man. 1959



Hoffa checks over a truck while discussing safety concerns on a visit to a freight terminal. 1959



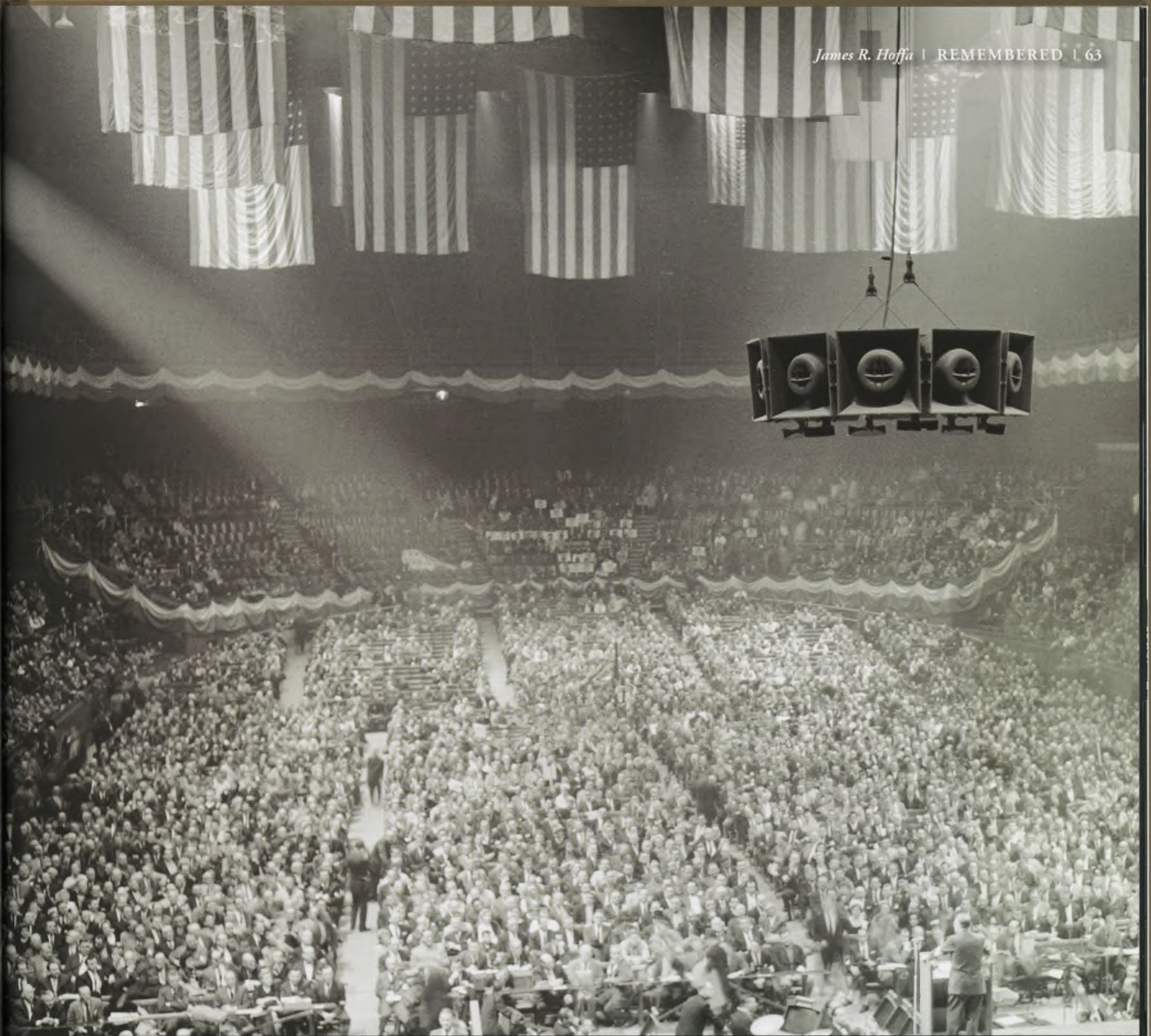
Teamsters Phil Sallen and Louis Gutter play chess at their Detroit local while Hoffa looks on. 1959



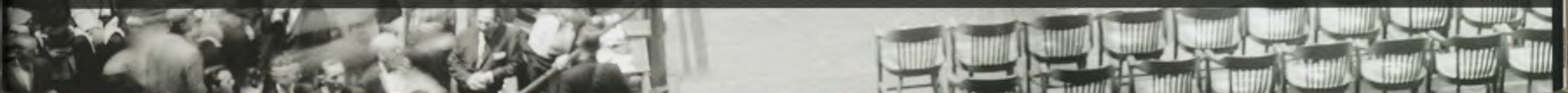
A banner encourages Teamsters to attend a rally in New York. 1960



Hoffa speaking onstage at a rally in Madison Square Garden. 1960



More than 10,000 members turned out to hear Hoffa speak at the Madison Square Garden rally sponsored by Joint Council 16 in New York. 1960





Hoffa and Father Charles Dismas Clark attend the premiere of the film "The Hoodlum Priest" in St. Louis. Father Clark, the subject of the film, was renowned for his work in rehabilitating ex-cons and for his creation of the innovative halfway house called Dismas House. 1961



Hoffa appeared on NBC's "Meet the Press" with moderator Ned Brooks and panelist Lawrence K. Spivak. 1961



The official portrait of General President James R. Hoffa hangs in the Teamster Headquarters with paintings of all the General Presidents. 1960.



Union members never miss a chance to meet the General President and shake his hand or pat his shoulder. 1961



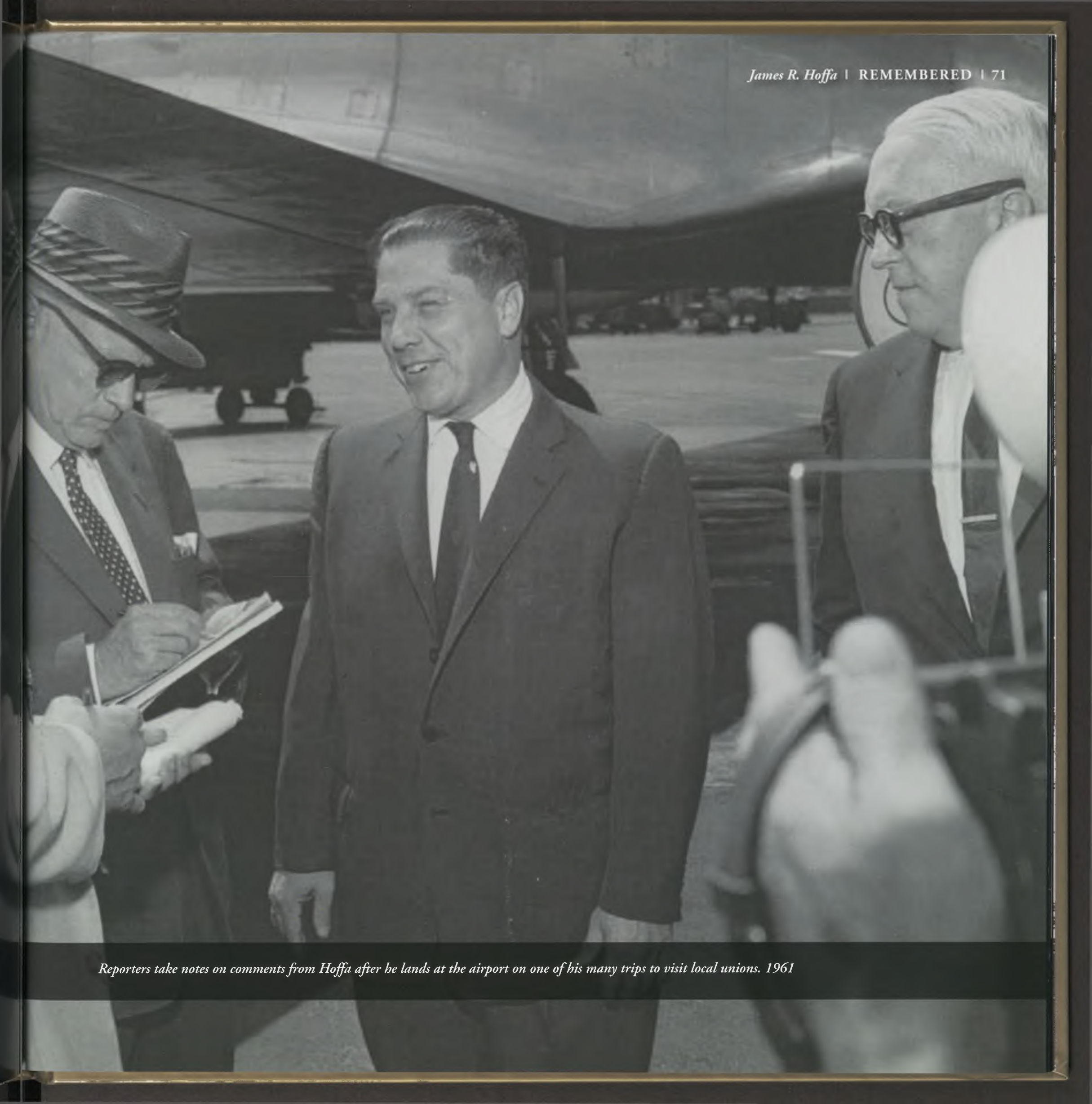
Hoffa and Vice President John O'Rourke discuss union issues at the 18th Convention. 1961



Hoffa was in no mood for nonsense at this moment during the 18th Convention in Miami Beach, Florida. 1961



The mood had lightened by the end of the Convention. Hoffa, who abstained from drinking alcohol, toasts his re-election as General President with a glass of coconut milk. 1961



Reporters take notes on comments from Hoffa after he lands at the airport on one of his many trips to visit local unions. 1961



Hoffa accompanies his wife, Josephine, and his mother, Viola Hoffa, to a church event in Detroit. 1961



Hoffa listens to remarks by Reverend James L. Martin, Trustee of Local 89, at the dedication of their new building in Louisville, Kentucky. Also pictured are Secretary-Treasurer Marion Winstead, Principal Officer Paul Priddy and Governor A.B. Chandler. 1961



Sikorsky Helicopter workers listen to Hoffa speak at an organizing rally in Bridgeport, Connecticut. 1961





Members always listened to Hoffa because he listened to them. Hoffa discusses issues with drivers at a freight terminal as part of a national tour he took speaking out against the Kennedy-Ervin bill. 1959



An enthusiastic crowd greets Hoffa on his arrival in Philadelphia. He was in town to help negotiate the end of a strike. 1964



Hoffa lends a hand to organizers at the Coors porcelain plant in Golden, Colorado. He laughs at the reaction of one woman to his offer of a flier. 1962

Members from Local 162 working at the Portland Reporter newspaper in Oregon show Hoffa around on a visit to the plant. 1962

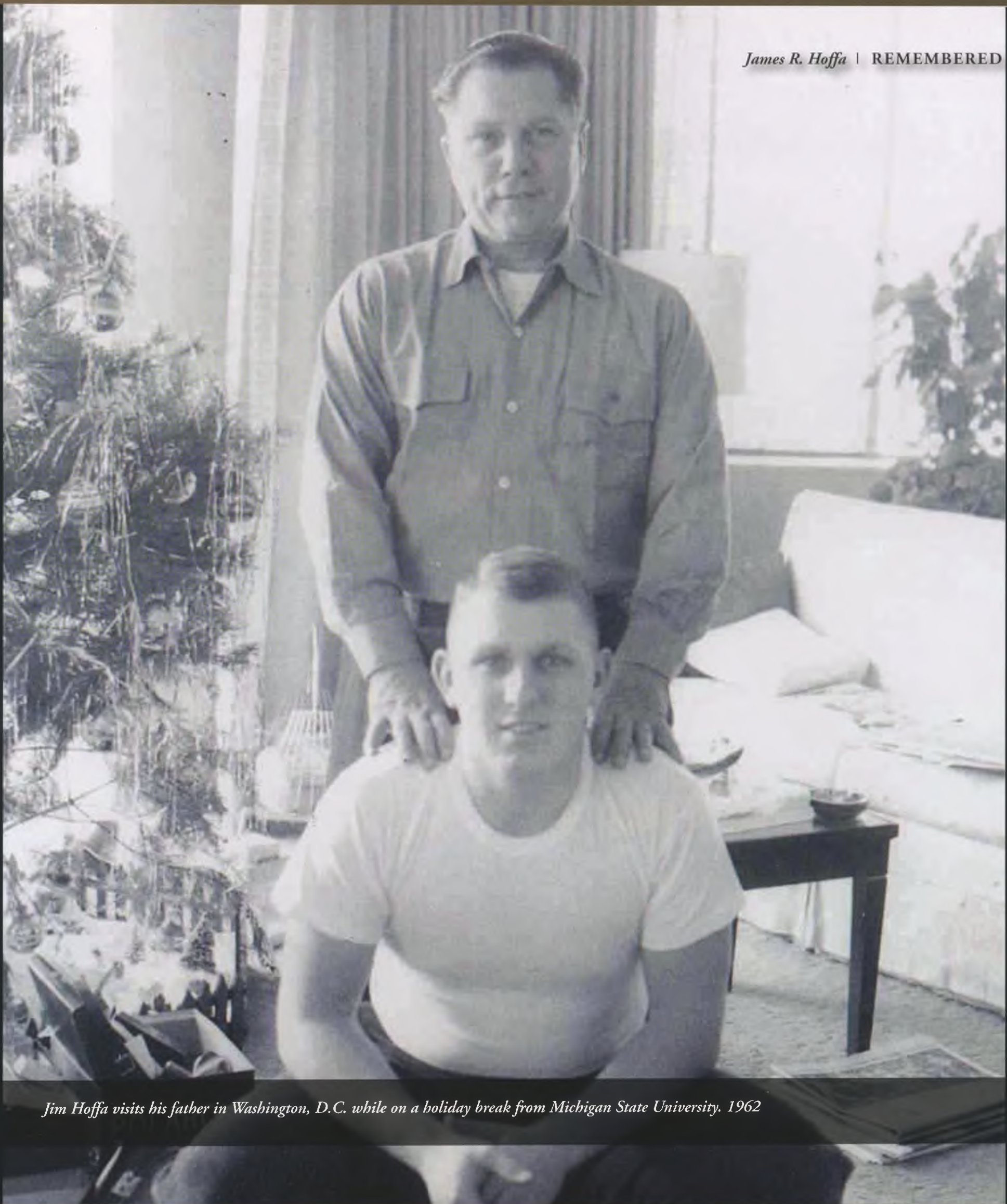


Jimmy and Jo Hoffa promote the new political action initiative, DRIVE, through membership rallies and luncheons across the country. 1962



General President Hoffa and his wife Josephine. 1962

Inset: Hoffa shows he knows "proper etiquette just like the rich guys" with his coffee on a visit to Vancouver, British Columbia. 1960.



Jim Hoffa visits his father in Washington, D.C. while on a holiday break from Michigan State University. 1962



The General President seems to be crafting an idea in his mind as he heads into a meeting. 1962



A Teamster cab driver steps up to shake hands with the General President. 1962.



Hoffa speaks to members during a segment of NBC's "This Week with David Brinkley." 1963



Texas Teamsters give Hoffa a "signature" hat while on a tour to promote DRIVE. Hoffa received a wide variety of hats representing the states he visited during DRIVE trips. 1963



Hoffa lifts organizer Richard Kavner in triumph after hearing the union won the election to represent more than 8,400 truckers in a four-state area. 1963



The program for the dedication of Local 364's new building in South Bend, Indiana featured special guest speaker, James R. Hoffa. 1963



Mayor Stanley Davis delights Hoffa by giving him the key to the city of Grand Rapids, Michigan during a dedication ceremony at Local 406. Left to right are Lee Haney, President of Local 406; Hoffa; Secretary-Treasurer Patrick Mackey; and Mayor Davis. 1963



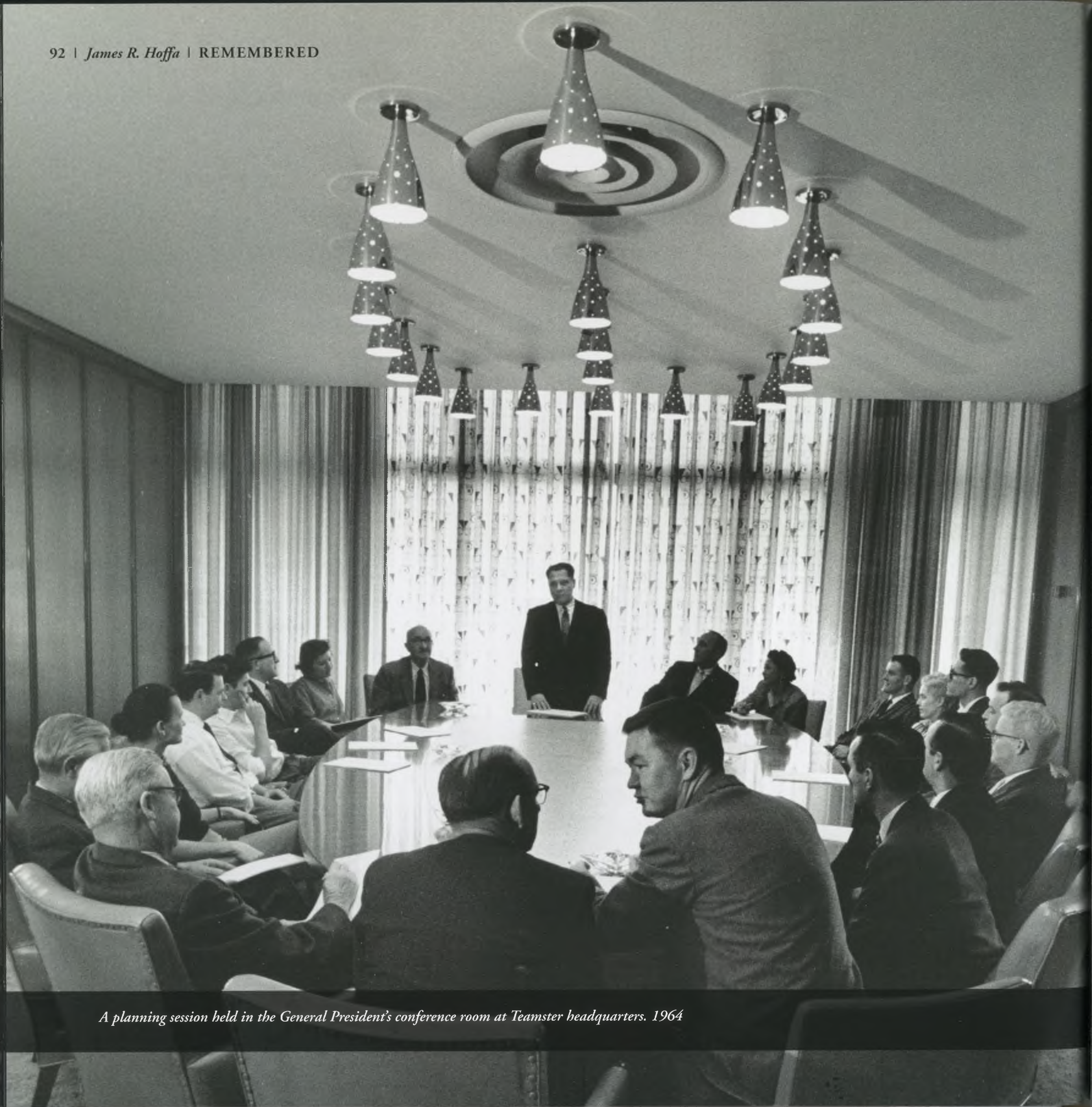
Hoffa liked to spontaneously drop in at truck stops and docks to learn what was on members' minds. He spotted these drivers coming out of a diner in Tennessee. 1963



Final negotiations were under way on the historic National Master Freight Agreement after more than three years of talks. Standing: Organizer Richard Kavner, International Vice President Murray "Dusty" Miller and Ted Bauer, Employer Negotiating Team member. Hoffa is seated next to Calvin Zwingle, the chief negotiator for the employers. 1963



Calvin Zwingli shakes Hoffa's hand as the unprecedented agreement for the nationwide freight contract is reached. The agreement covered 450,000 members. 1964



A planning session held in the General President's conference room at Teamster headquarters. 1964



Hoffa leans back and takes a minute to relax during one of his typical 12-hour work days. 1964



Heavyweight champion Joe Louis joins Hoffa and Harold Gibbons at a charity dinner in St. Louis. 1964



Hoffa signs autographs at a dinner for Joint Council 25 leader Ray Schoessling in Chicago, 1965



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., International Vice President Harold Gibbons, Hoffa and his Executive Assistant Joe Konowe attend the funeral of Teamster wife Viola Liuzzo. Liuzzo was killed by a Ku Klux Klan member during the civil rights march in Selma, Alabama. 1965



Hoffa gives a check for additional contributions to Dr. King after the death of Viola Liuzzo. The Teamsters had been supportive of civil rights from the earliest days of the movement. 1965



Lifting weights and keeping fit were important activities to Hoffa. When on the road, his first task was locating the YMCA in whichever town he was visiting. Hoffa checks out new weights at a sporting goods store. 1965



DRIVE Ladies Auxiliary members from Michigan meet with Hoffa on their visit to Washington, D.C. 1966



Hoffa attends the dedication ceremony for the new building at Local 676 in Collingswood, New Jersey. 1966





International Vice President Einar Mohn and Al Brundage, from the Western Conference of Teamsters Labor Council, meet with Hoffa to discuss organizing strategies. 1966



Hoffa laughs when a guest at a hotel says, "You look familiar...should I know you from somewhere?" 1966



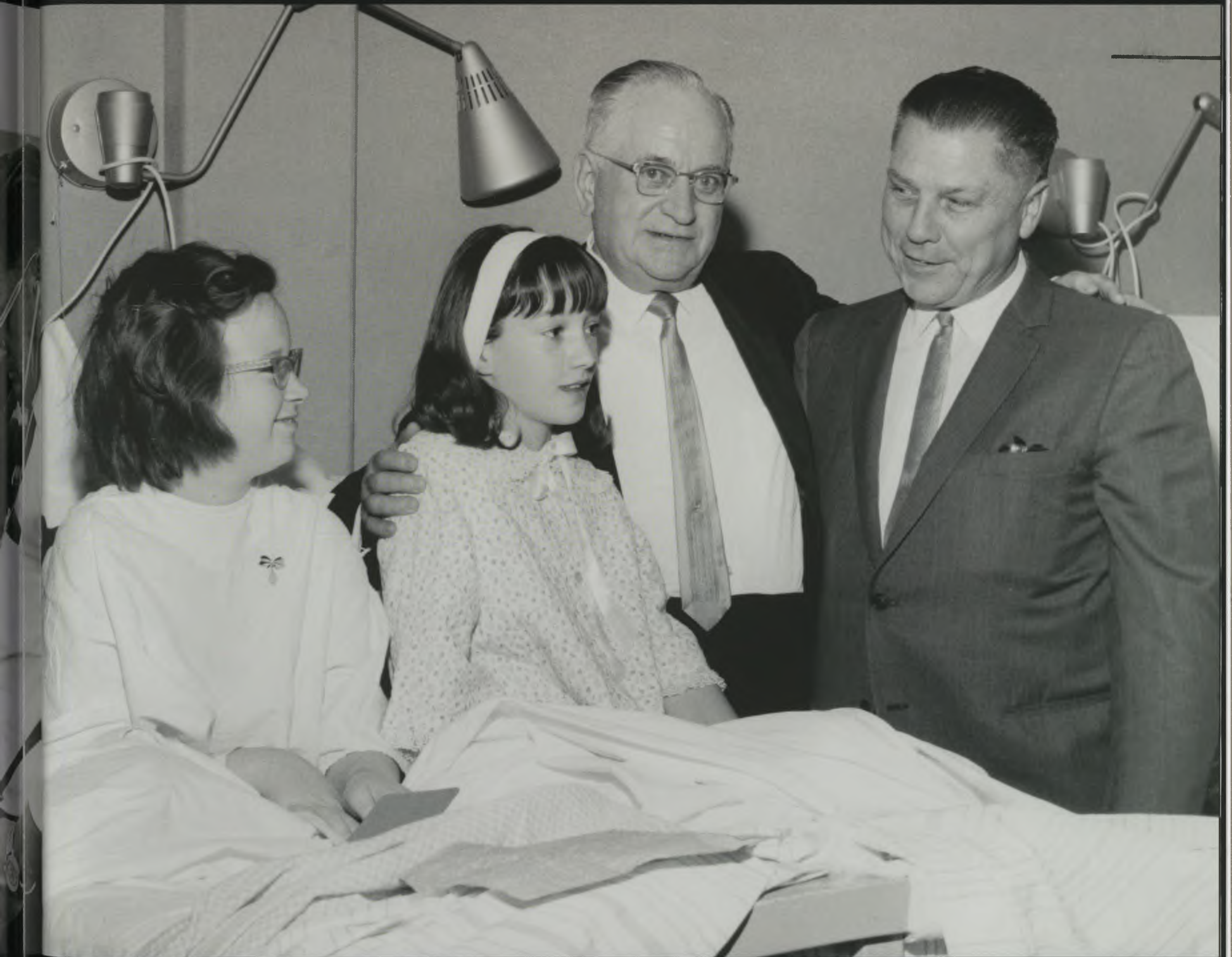
International Vice President George Mock and Hoffa go over plans to organize produce drivers in Arizona. 1966



Staff members discuss contract points with Hoffa before negotiations begin on the new Master Freight Agreement. 1966



Congressmen, armed service members, business leaders and members of the national media attend a day-long highway safety demonstration sponsored by Hoffa at Bolling Air Force Base in Washington, D.C. 1966



Hoffa and International Vice President John Backhus talk with Celia Middleton, daughter of a Local 107 member, and Joyce May, daughter of a United Steel Workers member in Philadelphia, after the two 10-year-old girls underwent open-heart surgery. 1966



Support for the General President came from many corners as Hoffa discovered from a canine fan at the 19th Teamster Convention held in Miami, 1966



Josephine Hoffa joins Clara Day from Local 743 and other DRIVE delegates in front of the 18-foot rocket ship that was the central feature of the DRIVE exhibit at the Convention. 1966



Hoffa listens to granddaughter Barbara Jo Crancer tell him about her flower during a break at the Convention. 1966



James P. Hoffa shares a laugh with his father and singer Sammy Davis Jr. at the Teamsters Convention. Davis performed in a special show for the delegates. 1966

Josephine Hoffa and her daughter Barbara Crancer attend a Convention luncheon with guest Zsa Zsa Gabor. 1966





General President Hoffa and his wife greet the crowd after Hoffa wins re-election at the Convention. 1966



The new building for Local 878 in Little Rock, Arkansas is officially opened at a ribbon-cutting ceremony with Hoffa and local President Odell Smith. 1966



Hoffa liked it when locals kept things simple on his visits. "I eat whatever the members eat." This holds true at the dedication of the new Local 878 building where he enjoyed a picnic-style lunch with officers, staff and hundreds of members and their families. 1966



Teamster members brought their children to hear Hoffa speak at a rally. 1966



Hoffa thanks the crowd after giving a speech to more than 4,000 members at Cobo Hall in Detroit. 1966



Robert Capps from Local 600 in St. Louis gives Hoffa a check for \$10,000 in contributions to DRIVE. Sid Zagri, Director of DRIVE, looks on. 1967.



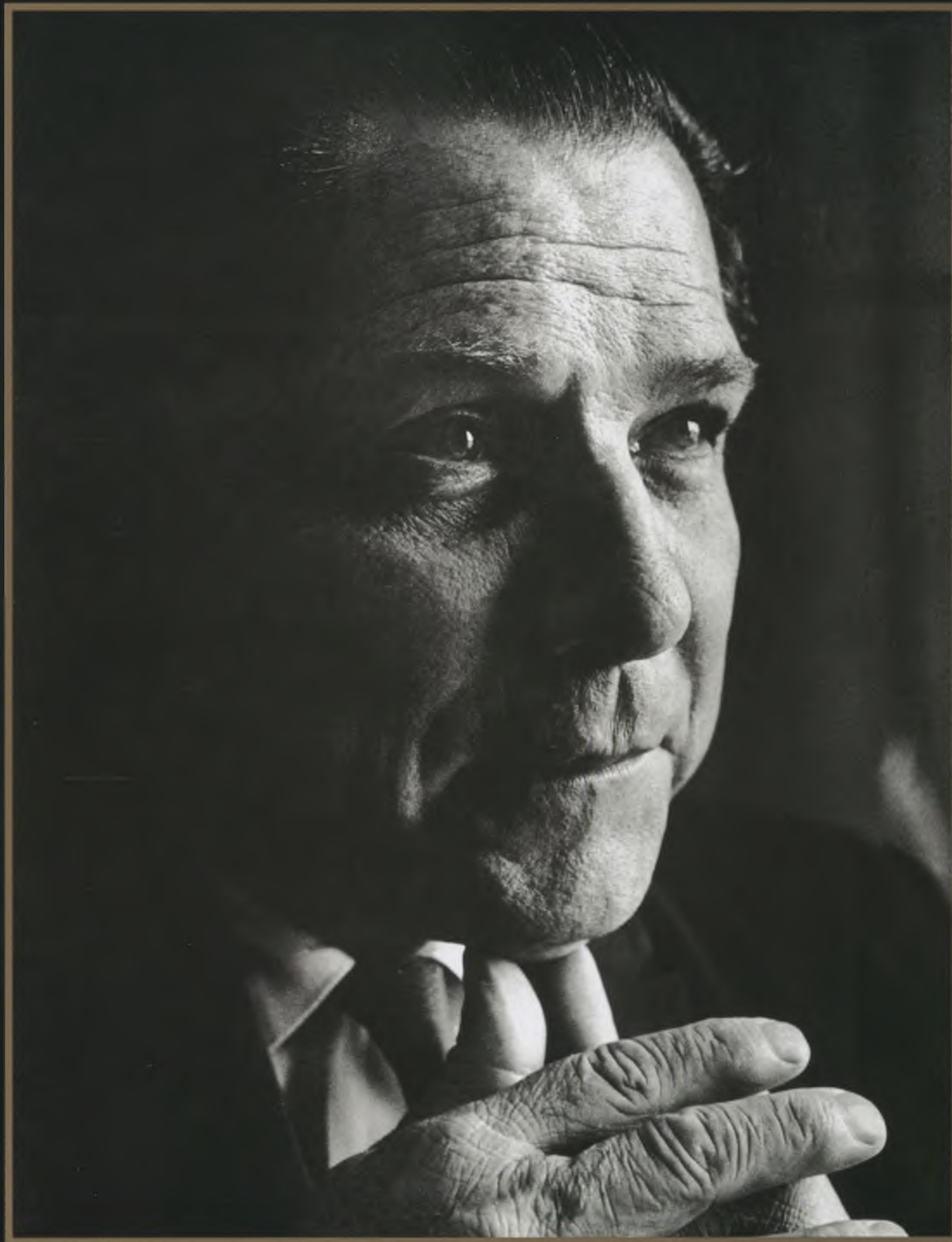
Hoffa talks with old friend and well-wisher Sam Solomon at his cigarette and candy stand in Detroit. 1971



The National Association for Justice honors Hoffa for his efforts in prison reform at an awards dinner in Washington, D.C. 1973.



Hoffa relaxes at his lake cottage. November 1974



Hoffa in a contemplative moment. 1974

Back cover: A number of the 300 Local 810 members newly organized at Freed Transformer Company in Brooklyn, New York, express their appreciation to General President Hoffa for his help in winning a strike and gaining an initial contract. 1966











"Jimmy Hoffa has put more bread and butter on the tables for American kids than all his detractors put together."

—Congressman Elmer Holland (D-PA).

"He was a force to be reckoned with and he used that force to improve our lives."

—Donald Savage, Teamsters Local 25 member (retired).

"He had a way about him...he was tough, he was fair and he got the job done.

If a company had a problem, he would help them any way he could."

—Walter Shea, International Vice President (retired).

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS

James P. Hoffa
General President



Ken Hall
General Secretary-Treasurer

